

Stoker Makes Guilty Plea

Robert L. Stoker, 32, returned from Nevada last week to answer burglary and forgery charges, pleaded guilty at his preliminary hearing Friday before South Bay Municipal Judge John Shidler. He will come up for sentence Friday.

The Glendale man was charged with writing payroll checks stolen from the Torrance Sand and Gravel Co. on March 18, and was also charged with the burglary.

He was returned from Reno, Nev., where he was apprehended while trying to cash one of

APRIL 14, 1955

TORRANCE HERALD

three

ISLAND AREA

Isle Royale in Lake Superior has an area of 210 square miles. The checks. He waived extradition.



(Herald Photo) Thursday night. Chatting with Brown, left to right, are Bob Wagner, vice-president; Dale Whann, financial secretary; and Tom Jones, recording secretary.

TO LEAD BUSINESSMEN . . .

Jack Brown, left, new president of the Wateria Businessmen's Club, chats with other new officers of the organization following their election last

SACRAMENTO REPORT

Assembly Will Study Problems Of California's Water Supply

By Charles Edward Chapel

Member of the Assembly Either H. E. Hodger, chief engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, or Paul Baumann, assistant chief engineer, will represent Los Angeles County at water hearings to be held in Sacramento at the State Capitol from 10 a. m., Thursday, April 28, to 6 p. m., Saturday, April 30.

The engineer finally designated for this assignment will speak from 8:30 p. m. to 9 p. m., on Friday, April 29, in the Assembly Chambers, on the subject, "Coastal Salt Water Intrusion."

Salt water intrusion also will be discussed on the afternoon of Friday, April 29, by speakers who discuss the various proposals for barriers in the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Area to hold back fresh water which now flows unimpeded into the ocean from the rivers of Northern California.

Converting Sea Water

A high-ranking faculty member from the University of California (from either the Berkeley or the Westwood campus) will lecture on converting sea water into fresh water.

This is not an idle dream. It is being done in Arabia right now and on an experimental basis in and near the city of Richmond, Calif. At present, the cost is too high for general use but it is believed that the difficulties can be overcome within the next few years, and possibly within the coming year.

If this is accomplished, it can free Los Angeles County from dependence on the Colorado River or other outside sources of fresh water badly needed for our rapidly increasing population.

Rain-Making

Under the heading of "weather control," an outstanding authority will speak on rain-making, also called "artificial precipitation," from 9:30 p. m. to 10:00 p. m., on Friday, April 29, in the Assembly Chambers. He will explain "seedling" clouds from airplanes, and "making rain from the ground."

In this connection, it should be observed that a man called "Hatfield the Rainmaker," the father-in-law of George McClain, the famous pension advocate, signed a contract with San Diego many years ago when rain was badly needed. San Diego promised to pay him what was a large fee in those days, probably about \$10,000. Hatfield promised to deliver rain within a certain period of time and in large quantities.

Hatfield performed his side of the contract so well that there were cloudbursts all over San Diego County, dams broke, bridges gave way, houses were swept to sea, some people and many animals were drowned.

PFC James F. Horner Gets Duty in Hawaii

Army PFC James F. Horner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Horner, 1859 W. 252nd St., Harbor City, recently arrived in Hawaii and is now a member of the 25th Infantry Division.

Horner entered the Army in February, 1954, and completed basic training at Fort Ord, Calif. He attended Harbor Junior College.

and the rain assumed some of the proportions of the flood that caused Noah to go to sea in the ark.

Everyone tried to sue Hatfield. San Diego welched on its promise and never paid Hatfield a cent. He became so disgusted that to this day he will not make rain or tell how he accomplished his great feat. He lives in quiet retirement and grants no interviews on rain-making.

Getting back to the talk on rain-making to be given in Sacramento, the experts who will appear before us will tell exactly how they produce rain. Actually, they "milk the clouds." They do not produce rain unless there is moisture in the atmosphere which can be condensed in the form of rain. They are not magicians but scientists and technicians.

How Program Started

In Los Angeles County, and in most of California, nobody worries about drinking water unless the faucet runs dry. We

take water for granted but it exists in limited supplies.

One atom bomb dropped or planted by an enemy or a domestic traitor could cut off our entire fresh-water supply from the Colorado River and turn Los Angeles back into a desert unless we repaired the damage or found some other source of fresh water.

In order to meet the water problems, many bills have been introduced. Some of them pertain to "Counties of origin" (counties where the rivers have their beginning); the Trinity River Diversion Project; the San Luis Reservoir and Canal Proposals; the famous Feather River Project; the Colorado River Agreements; the Los Angeles Metropolitan Water District; methods of financing water projects; and the creation of a new Department of Water.

Water Arrangements The Hon. Luther H. ("Abe") Lincoln, member of the Assembly from Oakland, and Speaker

of the Assembly, appointed a Committee on Arrangements to prepare the three-day water program mentioned above.

He appointed me as one of the members of this temporary committee for the purpose of deciding on subjects to be discussed and the speakers. Our work is not yet completed, but we have agreed upon the facts discussed in this issue of my family journal.

If you have any suggestions regarding the program of water problems which will be on the floor of the Assembly from April 28 to April 30, both dates inclusive, please write to me immediately at Assembly Chambers, State Capitol, Sacramento 14, Calif.

Tell me exactly what ideas you want expressed or what suggestions you want asked. This is your California State Legislature. If I do not hear from you, I must depend upon my own judgment and hope that it reflects your thinking.

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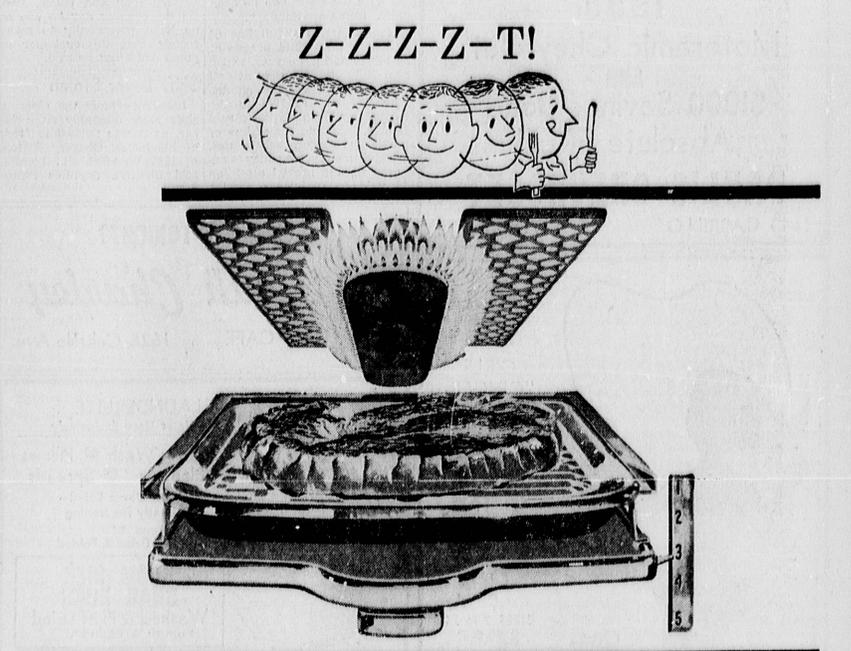
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THIS GIRL is wanted at home to care for her dolls, the kittens and to help mother do her shopping. She may be carrying a yellow purse, some jacks, a rag doll and her hair may be tied with a red ribbon.

They are both wanted in school for questioning in connection with the proper spelling of Cincinnati.

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